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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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COMMUNIST CHINA SELLS TUNG OIL

Tung oil from Communist China has been sold recently in Rotterdam at \$620 to \$627 per metric ton (U.S. 28.30 cents per pound), according to European trade sources.

Prices have strengthened on reports that Japan was interested in sizable quantities from China, but the latter is unable to meet the requirements. Moreover, stocks held by the Commodity Credit Corporation in the United States are now down to just over 2 million pounds, having been reduced from a beginning inventory of 26.4 million pounds last November 1. Finally, it is generally known that Argentina's production of oil--about to be marketed--is sharply below last year's estimated output of 55 million pounds.

SWEDISH TOBACCO IMPORTS
MUCH LARGER LAST YEAR

Sweden's imports of unmanufactured tobacco were much larger in 1960 than in 1959--25.9 million pounds, compared with 15.8 million.

The U.S. share last year was 67 percent, compared with 71 percent in 1959. Most imports from the United States consisted of flue-cured, burley, and fire-cured tobaccos. Total imports from the United States were 17.5 million pounds, compared with 11.2 million in 1959.

Increases also were recorded last year in imports of oriental tobacco from Greece, cigar leaf from Brazil, and flue-cured and cigar leaf from Italy. More tobacco was purchased from Cuba and India. Imports from the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, however, were down substantially.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: Sweden, imports by country of origin,
1958-60

Country of origin	1958	1959	1960 <u>1/</u>
	1,000 <u>pounds</u>	1,000 <u>pounds</u>	1,000 <u>pounds</u>
United States.....	11,232	11,168	17,469
Greece.....	631	1,411	2,877
Brazil.....	15	34	1,190
Italy.....	672	22	919
Cuba.....	115	189	756
India.....	35	230	681
Yugoslavia.....	661	862	496
Indonesia.....	243	124	443
Rhodesias-Nyasaland.....	289	1,234	414
Turkey.....	---	3	265
Other.....	5	483	398
Total.....	13,898	15,760	25,908
<u>1/</u> Preliminary.			

PORTUGAL'S TOBACCO IMPORTS STABLE

Portugal imported 2.4 million pounds of tobacco in the first quarter of 1961--about the same as in the corresponding period of 1960.

The U.S. share was 50 percent, compared with 57 percent in the first 3 months of 1960. Total imports of U.S. leaf were 1.2 million pounds this year against 1.4 million a year ago. Imports from all other major suppliers--Greece, Angola, Italy, and Mozambique--were somewhat larger than in January-March 1960.

(Continued on following page)

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: Portugal, imports by country of origin,
January-March 1959-61

Country of origin	January-March		
	1959	1960	1961
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
United States.....	1,149	1,378	1,215
Greece.....	269	309	320
Angola.....	37	121	220
Italy.....	190	139	205
Mozambique.....	95	163	174
Rhodesias-Nyasaland.....	104	29	99
Other.....	162	286	179
Total.....	2,006	2,425	2,412

BELGIANS PRODUCE AND USE
MORE TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Belgian factories turned out more tobacco products last year than in 1959.

Cigarette production in 1960 totaled 11,236 million pieces--up 4.7 per cent from 1959. Purchases of cigars and cigarillos--particularly the latter--also were substantially larger. Gains in these products more than offset a drop in output of smoking tobacco.

Factory usings of leaf tobacco in 1960 totaled 59.7 million pounds--2.9 percent more than in 1959.

TOBACCO PRODUCTS: Belgian output, 1958-60

Product	1958	1959	1960
Cigarettes (million pieces)...	10,866	10,736	11,236
Cigars (million pieces).....	149	165	178
Cigarillos (million pieces)...	612	639	738
Smoking mixtures (1,000 pounds):	19,877	19,495	18,554

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TURKEY'S TOBACCO EXPORTS
UP IN FIRST QUARTER

Turkish tobacco exports in January-March 1961 totaled 58.8 million pounds--a gain of 35 percent from the corresponding period of 1960.

Exports to the United States, at 41.7 million pounds, were nearly double those for January-March 1960, and accounted for 71 percent of the total. The increase in shipments to the United States more than offset drops in trade with Italy, Czechoslovakia, France, and the U.S.S.R.

CANADIAN SOYBEAN CRUSH SMALLER IN 1961

Canada's soybean crush from January through May totaled 6,325,600 bushels--about 7 percent less than in the corresponding period a year earlier.

The crushing of all oilseeds--233,736 short tons--through May of this year was slightly larger than in 1960, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The increased volume of flaxseed and other oilseeds crushed offset the smaller volume of soybeans.

OILSEEDS: Canada, crushings and production of oil and meal,
January-May, 1960 and 1961

Oilseeds	Crushings		Production			
			Oil		Meal	
	1960	1961	1960	1961	1960	1961
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Soybeans.....	204,168	189,768	37,110	33,781	158,061	147,881
Flaxseed.....	1/25,866	30,712	1/9,004	10,297	1/15,770	19,000
Other 2/.....	2,593	13,256	715	4,508	797	7,703
Total.....	232,627	233,736	46,829	48,586	174,628	174,584
1/ Revised. 2/ Includes sunflower seed, rapeseed, and safflower seed.						

Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

PERU PLANS TO IMPORT WHITE BEANS

The Government of Peru is planning to import 2,000 metric tons (44,000 100-pound bags) of white beans in the next several weeks to supplement short domestic supplies. The beans will be supplied to the consumer at less than cost.

Peru, which usually produces enough beans for domestic consumption, is currently conducting a national bean improvement program to increase production.

COLOMBIA BUYS FEED GRAINS, RICE, WHEAT, AND FLOUR

Colombia has imported 40,000 metric tons of corn, 15,000 tons of grain sorghums, and 10,000 tons of rice in the past 3 months, with the prospect that further purchases of corn may be made.

In addition, the country bought 112,000 tons of U.S. wheat and wheat as flour throughout the July-June fiscal year.

The corn, sorghums, and 63,000 tons of wheat were received under Title I, Public Law 480.

Although Colombia has a policy of self-sufficiency in cereals--with substantial support prices--the government has found it necessary to import supplementary supplies.

WEST GERMANY PRODUCES MORE MILK

West German milk production in the first quarter of 1961, at 10,322 million pounds, was 176 million higher than in the comparable period of 1960.

In both years, about 73 percent of production went to dairies. In the first quarter of 1961, however, requirements for fluid use were somewhat smaller. Butter production increased almost 4 percent to 222 million pounds.

Cheese output in the first quarter of 1961 was up about 3 percent to 214 million pounds. Production of dry whole milk increased 100 percent to 12 million pounds. Output of nonfat dry milk declined 17 percent to 35 million pounds, owing to large stocks and a rising demand for fluid skim milk by farmers. Production of condensed and evaporated milk also dropped and, at 177 million pounds, was 9 percent below the previous year.

CANADIAN EXPORTS OF OATS AND BARLEY DOWN

Canadian exports of oats and barley from July 1960 through May 1961 were 737,000 metric tons--down 40 percent from the 1.2 million shipped in the same period a year ago.

Oats shipments were down from 83,000 to 29,000 tons--a drop of 65 percent. Large decreases in shipments to almost all major markets, with the exception of the United Kingdom, largely account for the drop.

Barley exports totaled 700,000 tons--down 38 percent from the 1.1 million shipped a year ago. Large sales to Mainland China helped offset decreased trade to the United Kingdom, Poland, West Germany, and other important markets. Shipments to China during May were 97,000 tons, bringing total shipments to 286,000 during February-May 1961.

Corn exports were relatively small for the 2 comparable periods.

OATS AND BARLEY: Canadian exports by country of destination,
July-May 1959-60 and July-May 1960-61

Country of destination	Oats	Barley	Total
	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons
July-May 1959-60:			
United States	16,666	251,719	268,385
Peru	--	1,996	1,996
Jamaica	27	--	27
Venezuela	395	--	395
Panama	45	--	45
Belgium-Luxembourg	7,447	7,857	15,304
Germany, West	34,339	86,163	120,502
Italy	--	5,182	5,182
Netherlands	19,603	27,285	46,888
Poland	--	115,432	115,432
Switzerland	--	17,165	17,165
United Kingdom	4,271	565,555	569,826
Denmark	--	8,637	8,637
Republic of South Africa	--	108	108
Japan	--	38,515	38,515
Syria	--	14,403	14,403
Kuwait	--	4,334	4,334
Total	82,793	1,144,351	1,227,144
July-May 1960-61:			
United States	9,870	211,542	221,412
Peru	--	1,499	1,499
Trinidad	41	--	41
Venezuela	82	--	82
Panama	91	--	91
Barbados	7	--	7
Belgium-Luxembourg	2,297	--	2,297
Germany, West	--	1,763	1,763
Ireland	320	--	320
Italy	--	1,692	1,692
Netherlands	1,296	1,792	3,088
Switzerland	1,671	3,466	5,137
United Kingdom	13,527	200,110	213,637
China (Communist)	--	286,250	286,250
Total	29,202	708,114	737,316

**WORLD BUTTER AND CHEESE PRICES: Wholesale prices at specified markets,
with comparisons
(U. S. cents per pound)**

Country, market, and description	Butter				Cheese			
	1961	Quotations			1961	Quotations		
		Cur- rent	Month earlier	Year earlier		Cur- rent	Month earlier	Year earlier
United Kingdom (London)								
New Zealand, finest	June 29	31.3	31.3	38.8				
Australian choicest	June 29	30.9	30.9	38.6				
New Zealand, finest white					June 29	28.9	28.9	28.9
Australian choicest white					June 29	28.1	28.1	27.0
Australia (Sydney)								
Choicest butter	June 29	50.2	50.2	48.5				
Choicest cheddar					June 29	29.6	29.6	29.2
Irish Republic (Dublin)								
Creamery butter	June 29	58.3	58.3	58.3				
Cheese					June 29	34.1	34.1	32.5
Denmark (Copenhagen)	June 22	46.0	46.0	34.9				
France (Paris)								
Charentes creamery	July 3	62.3	66.0	66.7				
Germany (Kempten)								
Markenbutter	June 28	68.5	68.2	61.0				
United States								
92-score creamery (N.Y.)	June 23	61.2	62.5	59.0				
Cheddar (Wisconsin)					June 23	34.2	34.2	37.0
Netherlands (Leeuwarden)								
Creamery butter	June 28	43.5	43.6	42.0				
Full cream Gouda					June 28	23.5	23.5	20.2
Edam, 40 percent					June 28	22.1	22.1	18.7
Belgium (Hasselt)	June 29	72.1	72.2	73.6				
Canada (Montreal)								
1st grade creamery	June 24	63.2	63.2	63.5				
Ontario white					June 24	31.0	31.0	31.6

Source: Intelligence Bulletin, the Commonwealth Economic Committee; and the Dairy Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

AUSTRALIA PROMOTING EXPANSION OF CANNED FRUIT EXPORTS

Australia is now granting tax concessions to its exporters of canned fruit to increase the country's share of the international trade.

The concessions were outlined recently by Mr. J. McEwen, Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade. The concessions, effective July 1, will enable exporters to treble expenditures on export promotions and still remain in the same tax position.

Mr. McEwen stated that only 20 percent of Australia's canned fruit exports goes to destinations other than the United Kingdom and this 20 percent is spread over 60 countries. In each, Australia's share of the market is small, and the potential for increase, through good promotion, is great.

The concessions are expected to result in strong trade promotional activity by canned food exporters. Continuous promotions are also being undertaken by the Australian Department of Trade. In the past year, Australian food products have been featured in 16 special newspaper supplements. The material was prepared by the Department of Trade to be coordinated with advertising by Australian exporters.

MILK PRODUCTION DROPS IN SWEDEN

Sweden's milk production in the first quarter of 1961 declined 4 percent from the comparable months of 1960--a fact attributed to the poor quality of the 1960 feed crop.

Reduced supplies for manufacturing, together with increased domestic consumption of fluid milk and cream, accounted for the smaller output of most of the important dairy products.

Butter production dropped 10 percent to 33 million pounds. Cheese, at 23 million pounds, was down 15 percent. Output of dried whole milk and nonfat dry milk, each at 4 million pounds, declined 18 and 38 percent, respectively. Only production of condensed milk showed an increase, rising about 17 percent to 2 million pounds.

ITALY'S CHEESE EXPORTS ENTER UPTREND

Italy exported 11 million pounds of cheese in the first 3 months of 1961--an increase of one million pounds over the comparable months of 1960.

Most of the major markets, except France, took larger quantities than a year ago. French purchases declined to 132,000 pounds from over one million. The largest shipment--4 million pounds--went to the United States. Increased exports also were made to Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Belgium, West Germany, and Venezuela.

TAIWAN STIMULATES SUGAR CANE PLANTING

Farmers in Taiwan will soon have increased incentive to grow sugar cane.

The government and the Taiwan Sugar Corporation (TSC) will (a) increase by 10 percent the guaranteed price paid to farmers for their share of the sugar manufactured and (b) increase the farmer's share of the sugar yield from 50 to 55 percent. Normally, farmers receive the export price or the guaranteed minimum price, whichever is higher, for the sugar they choose to sell to TSC.

In addition, TSC has proposed the establishment of a loan fund, derived from a portion of its increased earnings from larger exports to the United States, for use by sugar cane farmers at long-term, low-interest rates.

These efforts are designed to help maintain sugar cane production in the face of increasing competition for land use from other crops that offer higher earning potential. About 70 percent of Taiwan's sugar cane for centrifugal sugar is produced by independent farmers.

DANISH BROILER OUTPUT
INCREASES RAPIDLY

Broiler production in Denmark has almost doubled in the past year.

In 1960, output totaled 70 million pounds, compared with 37 million in 1959. A recent census of broiler numbers indicates another sharp increase in 1961. The number, although believed not to be materially influenced by seasonal fluctuations, increased from 6 million in July 1960 to 11.7 million by April 1961--an increase of 96 percent in 9 months.

Broilers are produced on 12,279 farms--6.3 percent of total Danish farms. Almost three-fourths of the broilers are on larger farms in flocks of over 2,500 birds.

WEST GERMANY PERMITS ENTRY
OF SOME FRENCH CATTLE

West Germany will now allow entry of cattle from areas of France that are free from foot-and-mouth disease.

Cattle from Finistere in Brittany that are shipped by sea may enter northern ports in unlimited quantities. Cattle from eastern France that are shipped directly into Germany are limited to 600 head per week.

France has had difficulty finding markets for its beef. The ban on French cattle and beef has been a bone of contention between the 2 countries in the development of the European Common Market agricultural policy.

AUSTRALIA MAY RAISE WOOL TAX TO PROVIDE PROMOTION FUNDS

The levy on wool produced in Australia may be raised from 56 cents to \$1.12 per 300-pound bale to provide funds for promotion of wool sales.

The plan is expected to go before Parliament in early August, and if the measure is passed, the increase will become effective late in the month.

The Australian Wool Growers and Graziers Council, together with the Wool and Meat Producers Federation, have approved the plan, which is backed by the Wool Bureau.

The bureau hopes to increase the levy gradually to \$2.02 by the 1967-68 selling season.

Australia is the source of nearly half the wool entering international trade.

NEW ZEALAND TO SHIP MEAT TO U.S.

Five ships will sail from New Zealand during August with 13,664,000 pounds of meat for the United States.

Ship	Sailing date	Destination	Quantity
			<u>1,000 pounds</u>
Mariposa.....	August 1	West Coast	448
Cap Corrientes.....	do. 24	do.	2,688
Monterey.....	do. 29	do.	448
Roscommon.....	do. 22	East Coast	672
Doric.....	do. 31	Do.	9,408

MEXICAN FROZEN STRAWBERRY IMPORTS CORRECTED

The estimated U.S. imports of Mexican frozen strawberries reported for May also included Canadian imports.

The official U.S. imports for January-May reported by the Bureau of the Census is 23.9 million pounds, and the estimated imports for June are 2.4 million and for July 1 through 15, 1.0 million, making the total for January 1 through July 15 27.3 million pounds.

The estimated Canadian imports from Mexico between January 1 and July 15 are 3.4 million pounds.

HOG CHOLERA ERADICATED IN CANADA

Canadian veterinarians believe that hog cholera has been eradicated in Quebec--the last center of an outbreak that first appeared in Canada last fall.

No infections have been detected in the country since June 6. Up to that time, 420 outbreaks had occurred, with 405 of these in Quebec. As a result, 56,969 exposed and infected hogs were slaughtered and destroyed, and the government paid \$1,507,000 in compensation. On June 9, restrictions on the movement of swine were removed in Quebec. Inspection officials are keeping a close watch for new outbreaks, particularly among garbage-fed hogs.

EGYPT IMPORTING MUTTON
FROM NEW ZEALAND

Egypt is buying mutton from New Zealand for the first time since the Suez crisis in November 1956.

In recent years Egypt has been importing some meat from Communist China, but drought and food shortages have made it impossible to continue shipments.

A Greek-Australian shipping line is handling the present transaction and is reselling the meat in Egypt on a time-payment plan.

U.S. WHEAT AND FLOUR
EXPORTS RUNNING HIGH

U.S. wheat and flour exports from July 1960 through May 1961 totaled 609 million bushels--about 11 percent more than the alltime record of 550 million exported in the full year of 1956-57.

Preliminary estimates for exports during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1961, remain about the same as the earlier forecast of 660 million bushels. This figure is substantiated by inspections of wheat for export during June and by other related information.

Wheat exports during July-May 1960-61 totaled 515 million bushels--about 35 percent more than during the same period a year earlier. Most of the increase was in larger shipments to Italy and Spain--69 million bushels, whereas practically none was exported to these countries in the previous season. Larger quantities were also shipped to Poland, India, and Pakistan.

Flour exports during July-May 1960-61 totaled 94 million bushels--nearly 12 percent more than during the first 11 months of 1959-60. Larger shipments to Syria and Egypt (29.4 million bushels, compared with 17.5 million a year earlier) accounted for most of the increase.

WHEAT AND FLOUR: U.S. exports by country of destination, July-May 1959-60 and July-May 1960-61

Country of destination	July-May 1959-60			July-May 1960-61		
	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total
	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels
Western Hemisphere:						
Canada	1,877	119	1,996	7,248	88	7,336
Central America	2,198	3,460	5,658	2,799	2,848	5,647
Federation of West Indies	62	1,854	1,916	356	2,063	2,419
Cuba	5,268	2,570	7,838	547	1,197	1,744
Bolivia	—	1,788	1,788	—	2,786	2,786
Brazil	32,638	4	32,642	35,689	166	35,855
Chile	—	1,074	1,074	1,200	992	2,192
Colombia	1,419	700	2,119	3,446	898	4,344
Peru	3,877	289	4,166	3,443	426	3,869
Uruguay	7,799	26	7,825	—	14	14
Venezuela	8,229	325	8,554	7,304	110	7,414
Others	1,960	2,607	4,567	1,986	2,039	4,025
Total	65,327	14,816	80,143	64,018	13,627	77,645
Europe:						
Belgium-Luxembourg	2,455	18	2,473	4,252	4	4,256
Germany, West	9,500	550	10,050	6,362	314	6,676
Greece	128	1,960	2,088	3,107	1,993	5,100
Italy	546	6,408	6,954	43,097	5,431	48,528
Netherlands	5,683	3,439	9,122	7,099	3,220	10,319
Norway	2,135	435	2,570	1,315	407	1,722
Poland	23,050	607	23,657	39,648	748	40,396
Portugal	89	767	856	4,228	765	4,993
Spain	—	727	727	26,140	375	26,515
Switzerland	800	—	800	3,346	5	3,351
United Kingdom	17,243	767	18,010	15,734	1,866	17,600
Yugoslavia	9,379	2,870	12,249	9,303	1,916	11,219
Others	2,966	408	3,374	3,594	610	4,204
Total	73,974	18,956	92,930	167,225	17,654	184,879
Asia:						
Ceylon	—	2,645	2,645	—	3,228	3,228
India	108,840	116	108,956	117,368	270	117,638
Indonesia	10	4,200	4,210	—	671	671
Iran	—	143	143	6,733	233	6,966
Israel	7,398	149	7,547	7,372	209	7,581
Japan	27,286	3,098	30,384	28,121	2,491	30,612
Jordan	1,990	716	2,706	3,004	2,894	5,898
Korea	11,310	1,499	12,809	11,026	939	11,965
Lebanon	701	2,620	3,321	740	880	1,620
Pakistan	28,510	227	28,737	35,327	860	36,187
Philippines	1,758	3,914	5,672	6,697	1,450	8,147
Saudi Arabia	46	2,758	2,804	34	2,826	2,860
Syria	2,388	3	2,391	6,264	6,990	13,254
Taiwan (Formosa)	8,704	531	9,235	8,788	1,420	10,208
Turkey	11,816	43	11,859	14,232	104	14,336
Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia	2/	2,031	2,031	575	3,826	4,401
Others	839	1,938	2,777	3,282	2,888	6,170
Total	211,596	26,631	238,227	249,563	32,179	281,742
Africa:						
Algeria	4	170	174	3,033	372	3,405
Canary Islands	2,047	3	2,050	1,328	5	1,333
Egypt	20,001	17,910	37,911	16,789	24,821	41,610
Morocco	1,794	460	2,254	4,736	809	5,545
Nigeria	—	2,224	2,224	—	1,831	1,831
Tunisia	2,960	39	2,999	5,809	60	5,869
Republic of South Africa	1,095	1	1,096	—	9	9
Others	2,274	2,725	4,999	2,533	2,420	4,953
Total	30,175	23,532	53,707	34,228	30,327	64,555
Oceania	—	44	44	—	41	41
World total 2/	381,072	83,979	465,051	515,034	93,828	608,862

1/ Wholly of U.S. wheat (grain equivalent). 2/ Less than 500 bushels. 2/ Includes shipments for relief or charity.

Compiled from records of U.S. Department of Commerce.

LARGE CASHEW SUPPLY AVAILABLE IN INDIA

India's 1961 supply of cashews, according to preliminary estimates, will total about 222,000 short tons--a 25,000-ton increase from the February estimate.

This large supply is accounted for by increased imports of African raw nuts because India's domestic production was smaller than expected. India's 1960 supply of cashews is placed at 191,800 tons by revised production and import statistics.

CASHWES: India, supply and distribution, 1959-61

Item	1959	Revised 1960	Preliminary 1961
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Beginning stocks.....	22,500	2,500	--
Production.....	73,000	80,000	67,000
Imports.....	101,200	109,300	155,000
Total supplies.....	196,700	191,800	222,000
Domestic consumption and other disappearance.....	5,600	5,600	5,600
Exports 1/.....	1/ 1,683,093	1/ 1,707,139	1/ 1,900,000
Ending stocks.....	2,500	--	3,500

1/ Kernels in 50-pound cases; 1 short ton of raw nuts yields about 469 pounds of packed kernels.

Cashew production in India in 1961 is now estimated at 67,000 tons--down 7,000 from earlier reports. Last year's production amounted to 80,000 tons.

Heavy imports of raw cashew nuts from Africa are expected this season, because the African crop was reported to be large. Imports may total 155,000 short tons--the largest ever. Imports so far this season have reportedly totaled 137,000 tons.

The quality of African nuts this year is said to be average. According to revised data, 1960 imports totaled 109,300 tons.

Cashew kernel exports are forecast at 1,900,000 50-pound cases for 1961. About 983,000 cases are reported to have been sold by the early part of July. The majority of sales were reported to the following countries: United States, 572,000 cases; Communist Bloc countries, 197,000; United Kingdom, 80,000; Germany, 60,000; and Canada, 42,000. According to the Indian trade, exports totaled 1,707,139 and 1,683,093 cases in 1960 and 1959, respectively.

Exports by country of destination for those 2 years compare as follows:

Country	1959	1960
	- - <u>50-pound cases</u> - -	
United States.....	1,159,124	1,170,542
U.S.S.R.	196,484	232,992
Other Communist Bloc.....	30,890	50,200
United Kingdom.....	96,938	113,429
Canada.....	55,677	60,360
Australia.....	26,107	53,000
Other.....	117,873	26,616
Total.....	1,683,093	1,707,139

The average price paid for African raw nuts this season is estimated at \$155 per ton, c.i.f. Cochin--down from \$158 per ton paid in 1960, while the price for Indian nuts was also down, averaging about \$164 per ton, compared with \$168 per ton in 1960.

The average price received for packed kernels in the first 7 months of this year, according to the Indian trade, was 53.0 cents per pound, c. & f. New York--down 1.5 cents from the average 1960 price of 54.5 cents.

FINLAND TO EXPORT HAM

Finland will export about 13 million pounds of ham in 1961 in an effort to stabilize hog prices.

The Finnish Government has raised the price of pork 8 to 12 cents a pound and will export ham to support the increase. The country has exported only small quantities of pork in recent years. Shipments to the United States amounted to about 73,000 pounds in 1958 and 5,000 in 1960. No exports were made in 1959.

Hog numbers in Finland declined from 534,000 in 1958 to 431,000 in 1960. Numbers increased to 450,000 by January 1, 1961, and with higher prices should show further gains this year.

RHODESIAS-NYASALAND EXPECTS BANNER AGRICULTURAL YEAR

Crop forecasts for the third quarter (April-June) of 1960-61 in the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland point to record production, especially in flue-cured tobacco, tea, cotton, peanuts, corn, and livestock.

The tobacco crop is expected to total about 276 million pounds, with flue-cured accounting for about 247 million.

Because of improved weather, African farmers in Southern Rhodesia alone are expected to produce a surplus of about 1.2 million 200-pound bags of corn, compared with 620,000 last season. The Federation as a whole is expected to have an export surplus of about 8.9 million bushels of corn for 1961.

Cattle raising, stimulated by moderate but increasing exports of higher quality chilled beef to the United Kingdom, is now second only to tobacco in Southern Rhodesia's agricultural economy. The number of cattle in the Federation has increased in the past 7 years from 4.4 million head to 5.1 million.

The \$2.2 million Kyle dam, which will irrigate large areas of the Southern Rhodesian lowveld, was officially opened on May 13. The dam will enable the country to become largely self-sufficient in sugar in the next 2 years and increase production of citrus and other irrigated crops. A second dam on the same river at Bangala is already being planned.

A \$20-million nitrogenous fertilizer plant, with a proposed capacity of 50,000 tons, is also under discussion.

The Federation is becoming the second largest user of agricultural machinery in Africa, with an annual equipment turnover of about \$12 million. A considerable amount of hand labor, however, will continue to be used, because it will be necessary to furnish employment for increasing numbers of Africans on European and African farms.

ECUADOR SETS NEW VALUE FOR CURRENCY

Ecuador changed the par value of its currency from 15 to 18 sucres per U.S. dollar--effective July 19--and thereby abolished most of the country's multiple exchange rates.

The new system sets the import and export rates at 18.18 sucres and 17.82 sucres per dollar, respectively. At least 90 percent of all trade and trade-connected transactions--including the major exports of bananas, coffee, and cocoa--will be conducted at these rates.

The fluctuating free market rate (currently 22 sucres per dollar), mainly for nonessential invisible transactions and unregistered capital transactions, will remain.

GRAIN SUPPORT PRICES INCREASED BY SPAIN

Spain's wheat support prices for 1961-62 average almost 10 percent higher than those for 1960-61. The prices for 4 of the 6 wheat types were increased 9.8 percent and the other 2 were increased 10.0 and 10.1 percent.

The support prices of the other 4 grains were raised from 2.9 percent for barley to 9.5 for rye, for an average of 4.6. The 1960-61 and 1961-62 support prices are listed below:

GRAINS: Spain, support prices, 1960-61 and 1961-62

Grain	Support prices			
	1960-61		1961-62	
	Pesetas per metric ton	Dollars per bushel	Pesetas per metric ton	Dollars per bushel
Wheat:				
Type I	5,200	2.36	5,730	2.60
Type II	5,060	2.29	5,560	2.52
Type III	5,060	2.29	5,560	2.52
Type IV a.....	4,960	2.25	5,450	2.47
Type IV b.....	4,860	2.20	5,340	2.42
Type V	4,660	2.11	5,130	2.32
Rye	3,650	1.54	4,000	1.69
Barley.....	3,400	1.23	3,500	1.27
Corn.....	3,500	1.48	3,600	1.52
Oats.....	3,000	.72	3,100	.75

In addition, farmers who sell wheat in November or later will receive the following premiums on such sales (in pesetas per metric ton, with the cents per bushel in parentheses): November, 15 (0.7); December, 30 (1.4); January, 45 (2.0); February, 60 (2.7); March and April, 70 (3.2).

The farmers are required to sell all the wheat they produce, except the quantities they need at home for family use or animal feed, to the government National Wheat Service. A farmer may use wheat for animal feed only after receiving permission from the Ministry of Agriculture to use Types IV a, IV b, and V.

The growers may sell rye, barley, corn, and oats to private buyers at regular market prices. If, however, one or more of these prices should at any time be below the respective support levels, the National Wheat Service will buy the grains from the farmers at the support prices.

CANADIAN COTTON CONSUMPTION
AHEAD OF LAST SEASON

Canadian cotton consumption, based on the number of bales opened by mills, totaled 328,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in the first 11 months (August-June) of the current season. This amount was 4 percent more than the 316,000 bales used in the corresponding months of 1959-60.

Consumption of cotton in June amounted to 31,000 bales, compared with 33,000 in May and 28,000 in June 1960.

GRAIN LAW AMENDMENT PASSED BY WEST GERMAN BUNDESTAG

Private traders in West Germany may soon be required to purchase "appropriate quantities" of domestic grains from the Import and Storage Agency in order to qualify for grain import licenses.

The Bundestag, lower house of Parliament, recently passed an amendment to the Grain Law that would legalize the aforementioned proposal. To become law the amendment will also have to be passed by the Bundesrat, the upper house of Parliament, and this appears likely.

The amendment would confine such purchases by a trader from the Agency to grain that "essentially serves the same purpose of utilization" as the grain the trader proposes to import. The purpose is to enable the Agency to market part of its large holdings of domestic feed wheat and feed and brewing barley by coupling purchases of such grains by private traders with imports of similar grains.

The Agency attempted to use this procedure some time ago, but the import trade challenged the procedure in court and it was declared illegal.

After losing the court cases, the Agency bought fairly large quantities of imported feed grains from private traders on a bid basis. German purchasers were required to buy specified quantities of Agency-owned domestic grains in order to obtain such imported grains (Foreign Crops and Markets, June 19, 1961).

ARGENTINE SUNFLOWER SEED CROP SMALLER IN 1961

The second official estimate of Argentina's 1961 sunflower seed crop is 661,400 short tons--one fourth below last year's production, but one-third larger than the 1953-56 average yield.

This year's small outturn was attributed to heavy rainfall during the April harvest and slightly smaller acreage sown in the fall of 1960.

Sunflower seed is the major oilseed crop grown in South America for edible oils, Argentina usually crushes its entire crop for edible oil, and oilcake and meal. Most of the sunflower seed oil is consumed domestically, whereas nearly all of the oilcake and meal is exported. In calendar year 1960, Argentina exported about 12,000 tons of sunflower seed oil and 220,000 tons of oilcake and meal. From April 1960 through March 1961 (crop year), an estimated 240,000 tons of oil were produced from the 884,000-ton sunflower seed crop harvested in early 1960.

SUNFLOWER SEED: Argentina, acreage, production, and yield per acre, average 1953-56 and annual 1957-61

Item	Unit	Average 1953-56	1957	1958	1959	1960 <u>2/</u>	1961 <u>2/</u>
Acreage <u>1/</u>	1,000 : acres	1,592	2,386	3,228	2,120	2,701	2,456
Production.....	1,000 : short : tons	499	689	836	427	884	<u>3/</u> 661
Yield per acre..	Pounds	632	578	518	402	655	539

1/ Acreage harvested. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Second official estimate.

Compiled from official sources.

GREEK RAISIN, CURRANT, AND FIG PACKS AVERAGE

The 1961 Greek raisin pack is tentatively estimated at 57,000 short tons--double the size of the mildew-damaged 1960 pack. The 1961 dried currant pack is forecast at 100,000 short tons, compared with a 104,000-ton pack in 1960. The dried fig pack this year is expected to amount to 28,000 tons--1,000 tons larger than 1960 output.

The Greek Government has announced the 1961 "security prices" (support prices) for raisins and dried currants. These will be the same as those set for 1960--for raisins: 10.58 cents per pound, basis No. 4 grade unbleached raisins and for currants: 9.07 cents basis average Amalias grade.

As usual, no limitations have been set on the quantity of currants that the Autonomous Currants Organization (A.S.O.) will buy from growers at the security price. No quantitative limitation will be placed on raisins that may be offered by growers to the Confederation of Sultana Growers Cooperatives (K.S.O.S.) at the security price. This would be the first time that no limit has been set on raisin support purchases--aside from 1960 when the crop was disastrously small.

Raisin sales will be made at world prices set by a specially organized committee. The Greek export trade may proceed in carrying out advance sales at prices controlled by this committee with the guarantee that the exporter will be able to deliver the amounts presold. The export trade will be authorized by K.S.O.S. to purchase raisins directly from the growers. Because of the difficult financial conditions that raisin producers are in as a result of last year's downy mildew damage, producers will be entitled to receive at least 4.16 cents per pound for their deliveries to K.S.O.S., regardless of their indebtedness to the Agricultural Bank.

JAPAN IMPORTS MORE
U.S. COTTON

Imports of U.S. cotton into Japan from August 1960 through March 1961 rose 15 percent over the same period a year earlier, despite a small decline in total imports.

In the period under review, imports from the United States totaled 1,059,000 bales (500 pounds gross), half of Japan's total imports of 2,131,000 bales, against 919,000 bales or 43 percent of the August-March 1959-60 intake of 2,137,000 bales. Quantities imported from major sources other than the United States from August 1960 through March 1961, with comparable 1959-60 figures in parentheses, were: Mexico 635,000 bales (609,000); Pakistan 89,000 (105,000); India 72,000 (126,000); Brazil 55,000 (122,000); El Salvador 42,000 (20,000); Egypt 35,000 (54,000); Peru 24,000 (15,000); Burma 16,000 (20,000); Nicaragua 15,000 (12,000); U.S.S.R. 13,000 (22,000); Colombia 13,000 (0); and Guatemala 13,000 (8,000).

Consumption during the full 1960-61 season is expected to be somewhat larger than the 2,930,000 bales used in 1959-60, while imports apparently will fall below the 3,276,000 imported in 1959-60 when stocks were built up considerably. Consumption in August-February 1960-61 reached 1,850,000 bales--11 percent above the 1,662,000 used in the corresponding period of the previous season.

The expanded rate of consumption in 1960-61, along with smaller imports, probably will result in a reduction in cotton stocks on July 31, from the 1,025,000 bales on hand a year ago.

Strong demand continued throughout 1960-61 for all types of Japanese cotton goods in world markets, and most mills are reportedly booked well ahead. Exports of cotton fabrics, by far the most important category of Japanese textiles in world trade, amounted to 1,425 million square yards in 1960, against 1,263 million a year earlier. During the first 3 months of 1961, exports of cotton fabrics rose to 331 million square yards, from 302 million in January-March of 1960 as export sales showed further gains.

In view of active export demand for Japanese cotton goods, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) required only 15.5 percent of Japan textile equipment to be sealed beginning April 1, compared with 16.5 percent in the January-March quarter. About 7,567,000 spindles and 354,000 looms were in operation in Japanese mills on April 31.

On April 1, the Japanese government freed raw cotton imports, ending the former system of controlling the quantity and source of cotton entering Japan through foreign exchange allocations. With competitive prices, U.S. cotton may gain a still larger share of the Japanese import market under the free import system, due to its desirable quality characteristics and to the wide choice of qualities available throughout the year.

SPAIN SETS MINIMUM EXPORT PRICES
FOR TABLE OLIVES

Agreement was reached on minimum export prices of Spanish table olives at a recent meeting of olive exporters and the Spanish Ministry of Commerce in Seville.

The prices were applicable to olives shipped after July 1. The Ministry agreed not to issue export permits for sales made at less than the minimum prices.

TABLE OLIVES: Spain, minimum export prices, July 1, 1961

Size	Percent of pack: ("Assortment")	First class		Second class
		Whole	Stuffed	Whole
		U.S. dol. per short ton		U.S. dol. per short ton
Queens:				
70/80	2	443	567	402
80/90	8	423	526	381
90/100	15	392	495	351
100/110	18	392	495	351
110/120	15	392	495	351
120/130	13	392	495	351
130/140	10	392	495	351
140/150	7	392	495	351
150/160	5	361	464	320
160/180	3	361	464	320
180/200	2	361	464	320
200/220	2	361	464	320
Second Class:		U.S. dol. per short ton		
Queens, pitted.....		433		
Queens, broken with pimento.....		206		
Queens, broken without pimento.....		268		
Manzanillas:				
180/200		392	598	
200/220		392	598	
240/260		351	557	
280/300		351	557	
300/320		340	546	
340/360		330	536	
380/400		330	536	
400/420		330	536	
Second Class:		U.S. dol per short ton		
Manzanillas, pitted.....				
Manzanillas, broken with pimento..		206		
Manzanillas, broken without pimento		268		
Pardigon, clean.....		165		

NETHERLANDS TO INCREASE TAXES ON GRAIN AND FLOUR IMPORTS

The Netherlands will increase its wheat import tax from 0.80 to 1.15 florins per 100 kilograms (6.1 to 8.7 U.S. cents per bushel) on August 27.

The increase is designed to raise the revenue in the government compensation payment fund. This fund is utilized to compensate Dutch millers for using domestic wheat in their grist in excess of the legally required minimum percentage. It is also used to compensate Dutch owners of wheat that is rendered fit only for animal feed.

The required minimum usage of domestic wheat by Dutch millers will be increased to 35 percent on August 27. It has been 30 percent since November 13, 1960, and was 35 percent before that date.

The Dutch wheat flour import tax was recently raised from 5.0 to 6.5 florins per 100 kilograms (63 to 82 U.S. cents per cwt.). The tax had been increased to 5.0 florins from 1.1 florins per 100 kilograms (13.8 U.S. cents per cwt.) on January 1, 1961.

One purpose of these increases is to raise the prices of imported flour to the approximate level of those for domestic flour. The latter are in part determined by the Dutch wheat support price and by the aforementioned requirement on the use of a minimum proportion of domestic wheat by Dutch millers in their grist.

The 1961 wheat support price is 30.5 florins per 100 kilograms (\$2.31 per bushel), compared with 31.0 florins (\$2.35 per bushel) for 1960. The support prices of oats and barley were left unchanged at 25.75 and 27.0 florins per 100 kilograms (\$1.04 and \$1.64 per bushel), respectively.

The Netherlands has also been gradually increasing its feed grain import taxes. The purpose of these is to approximately equalize the prices of imported and domestic feed grains. According to latest reports, the taxes, in florins per 100 kilograms with the cents per bushel in parentheses, are as follows: rye, 10 (71); barley, 12 (73); oats, 9 (36); corn (including milled corn and groats, corn flour, corn semolina, and corn flakes), 6 (42); milo, 7 (50); other sorghums, 8 (57); feed wheat, 6 (46).

GREECE EXPECTS LARGE OLIVE OIL OUTPUT

Favorable weather during the early spring growth of the 1961 Greek olive crop has prompted olive oil estimates in excess of 200,000 short tons.

This outturn of oil would be a sharp increase from the 83,000 tons produced from the poor olive crop in 1960, and would exceed the 180,000 of 1957-58.

Oil produced from this year's olive crop would be available for use in the 1961-62 marketing season, beginning November 1.

Exports of olive oil through April of the current marketing year were only 193 tons, in contrast to 11,735 during the corresponding 6 months of 1959-60.

BAHIA'S CASTOR BEAN ESTIMATE REVISED DOWNWARD

The 1961 castor bean crop in Bahia, Brazil, is now expected to be about 70,000 short tons--a sharply downward revision from the earlier estimate of 90,000 to 100,000 tons (Foreign Crops and Markets, June 26).

The revised estimate is based on this year's scant rainfall, which so far has been only 25 percent that of 1960.

At present, castor bean crushers have adequate supplies from the 1960 record crop of 226,000 tons. A shortage of the product, however, may occur in the December-February period of 1961-62.

As of mid-July, castor beans were selling for cr \$23.00 per kilogram (3.79 cents per pound at the free market rate of cr \$275 to U.S. \$1.00), bagged and delivered in Salvador. This figure is an increase of more than one-half from the mid-April price.

From one-third to one-half of Brazil's castor bean output is produced in the State of Bahia.

MEXICO MAY IMPORT MORE VEGETABLE OIL

Prices of edible oils to consumers in Mexico will not be increased, but additional imports may be authorized, according to the Mexican Government.

The announcement was made in reply to a recent request by Mexico's fats and oils industry that controlled retail prices of edible fats and oils be increased. Industry representatives contended that the low output of oilseeds in 1960 and restricted imports of edible oils have caused domestic oilseed prices to increase to a level where oilseed crushing and processing of oil is not economically feasible.

Mexico bought about 22 million pounds of cottonseed oil from the United States in early May. Some was shipped in the same month, with the balance scheduled for June export.

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